

Remarks

Claims 1 to 19 remain pending in this application.

Interview Summary

Applicant's representative, Mukundan Chakrapani, and the Examiner discussed the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment dated September 10, 2008, in a number of telephone conversations between September 16, 2008 and October 6, 2008. On October 6, 2008, the Examiner advised that, upon discussions with her Supervisor, the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment was issued in error. The Examiner recommended that a suitable confirmatory response to the Notice be filed following the telephone interview. A copy of the interview summary prepared by the Examiner is enclosed herewith.

Applicant reiterates that this application is the national stage application of underlying PCT Application No. PCT/CA2003/00459 filed on March 31, 2003. Claim amendments were made under Article 34 of the PCT as evidenced by the attached Notification of Transmittal of the International Preliminary Examination Report (IPER) and the IPER. The IPER clearly states that Claims 1-19, received on February 8, 2005, were entered during International Phase (see page 2 of IPER).

A copy of the Notification of Acceptance of Application under 35 USC 371 and 37 CFR 1.495 dated June 15, 2006, which clearly indicates that a copy of the IPER was received by the USPTO as a designated/elected office, were previously submitted along with the submission dated May 1, 2008.

For the Examiner's convenience, a listing of pending claims is provided below:

1. (original) A method of connecting a mobile device to a network having associated channels, the method comprising:

scanning a selected subset of the associated channels to create a list of potential channels carrying signals having power in excess of a predetermined threshold;

analysing each of the entries in the list of potential channels to identify channels carrying an encoded signal; and,

establishing a connection between the mobile device and the network associated with one of the identified channels carrying the encoded signal.

2. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the encoded signal is a GSM encoded signal and the network associated with the GSM encoded signal is a GSM network.

3. (original) The method of claim 1, including steps of:

initialising a timer after scanning the selected subset when the step of analyzing fails to identify channels carrying the encoded signal; and
waiting until expiry of the timer before scanning a next selected subset.

4. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein a subsequently selected subset is distinct from a previously selected subset.

5. (original) The method of claim 4, wherein the subsequently selected subset is complementary to the previously selected subset.

6. (original) The method of claim 1 further including the step of assembling the complete list of channels carrying the encoded signal from all the associated channels prior to establishing the connection when the step of analysing identifies at least one channel carrying the encoded signal.

7. (original) The method of claim 6, wherein the step of assembling the complete list of channels carrying the encoded signal includes scanning all channels in a frequency band to identify encoded signals.

8. (original) The method of claim 6, wherein the step of assembling the complete list of channels carrying the encoded signal includes scanning a next selected subset of the associated channels, complementary to the selected subset of the associated channels, to identify the presence of the encoded signal.

9. (original) The method of claim 6 wherein the step of establishing the connection includes registering the mobile device to the network with an associated encoded signal having the strongest power.

10. (original) The method of claim 6 wherein the step of establishing the connection includes the step of registering the mobile device for emergency service to the network with an associated encoded signal having the strongest power.

11. (original) The method of claim 3, wherein the selected subset of the associated channels corresponds to even numbered channels in a frequency band, and the next selected subset of the associated channels corresponds to odd numbered channels in the frequency band.

12. (original) A mobile device for connecting to an accessible wireless network transmitting an encoded signal in at least one of a plurality of channels in a frequency band, the mobile device having a transceiver, comprising:

 a channel subset selector for selecting a subset of the channels in the frequency band and for controlling the transceiver to scan the channels in the selected subset;

 an encoded signal detector for identifying channels scanned by the transceiver carrying an encoded signal having power in excess of a predetermined threshold; and

 a network device registrar for registering the mobile device on an accessible network associated with one of the identified channels carrying the encoded signal.

13. (original) The mobile device of claim 12, further including a timer for initiating a delay if the encoded signal detector does not detect the encoded signal in the subset of the channels, and for instructing the channel subset selector to select a subsequent subset of the channels upon expiry of the delay.

14. (original) The mobile device of claim 12, wherein the accessible wireless network transmits a GSM encoded signal, and the encoded signal detector is a GSM signal detector.

15. (original) The mobile device of claim 12, wherein the encoded signal detector includes means for requesting a complementary subset of the channels when a channel carrying an encoded signal is identified.

16. (original) The mobile device of claim 12, wherein the encoded signal detector includes means for requesting a complete subset of the channels when a channel carrying an encoded signal is identified.

17. (original) The mobile device of claim 13, wherein the timer includes means for instructing the channel selector to select the subsequent subset of the channels upon expiry of the delay if the encoded signal detector did not identify a channel carrying the encoded signal.

18. (original) The mobile device of claim 12, wherein the network device registrar includes means for registering the mobile device on the accessible network associated with the identified channel carrying the highest power encoded signal.

19. (original) The mobile device of claim 12, wherein the network device registrar includes means for registering the mobile device on the network associated with the identified channel carrying the highest power encoded signal.

Applicant submits that the Examiner has not examined the currently pending claims that entered the National Stage in the United States and requests withdrawal of the Office Action dated February 1, 2008 and of the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment dated September 10, 2008.

Applicant respectfully requests examination of the currently pending claims 1-19 entered during the International Phase.

No fee is believed due for this submission. However, Applicant authorizes the Commissioner to debit any required fee from Deposit Account No. 501593, in the name of Borden Ladner Gervais LLP. The Commissioner is further authorized to debit any additional amount required, and to credit any overpayment to the above-noted deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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1. Interview Summary